



# Empower Eau Claire: Participatory Budgeting

## Steering Committee Workshop #4

**Where:** City Hall, 203 S. Farwell St., North Conference Room

**When:** Wednesday, October 13, 2021, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

**Attendance:** SC members Karen Petersin (virtual), Richard Spindler, Kenny Tubwell, Susan Wolfgram, Mia Xiong. City staff Scott Allen, Ned Noel, Taylor Graybehl, Billie Hufford

## Agenda:

### 1. Review Kick Off Event

Feedback on the October 5th launch event at the senior was positive with a good turnout of the public and community resource tables. Improvements were there could have been more people attend and sign up to volunteer along with there was confusion on the outreach materials on how long the event was meant to go. Food and daycare were not options with liability and public health pandemic concerns. More paper copies could have been provided and agenda logistics. A program budget could have helped as well.

### 2. Idea Collection Events

The plan to hold idea collection events was discussed. Based on staffing resources, there will be three city idea collection events held at schools across the city. The committee recommended that both Hmong and Spanish-speaking groups receive equal treatment with an info session and an idea collection event. Pop-up outreach to these two groups were recommended along

with the unhoused during outreach downtown. Staff will seek out these opportunities but stated more volunteers to help in these areas will be needed.

### **3. Volunteers & Trainings**

Staff has only received 12 individuals who would like to volunteer. Four times this count is needed to cover all the work needed. Budget delegates and poll workers can still be recruited during and after the idea collections, but the urgent need is for outreach specialists and facilitators. November trainings for at least these two roles will occur before the idea collections. There is still a plan to make program marketing videos.

Members provided some names and contacts to follow up with along with offering their own help to make connections. It was recommended to reach out to the health systems, UWEC's multicultural office, and community reinvestment act (CRA) banks such as RCU, Charter Bank, BMO Harris, etc. to seek volunteers.

### **4. Outreach Plan & Sub-Committee**

Staff shared a draft plan and approach to use a sub-committee format to keep outreach organized and moving along. Mr. Graybehl will follow up with those members who volunteered to serve on the sub-committee. Outreach specialists will help then implement the plan.

### **5. Evaluation Assistance**

Handouts on possible program metrics and interview survey tools were provided. UWEC professors were not able to meet to discuss a partnership.

### **6. Next steps**

The committee will meet with UWEC representatives to discuss an evaluation partnership at the next meeting. Staff will confirm idea collection events by this date.